Town Government

Each town is governed by officials as designated by the local legislative body (a.k.a. Town Meeting, or City Council). Local officials and boards whose roles include issues related to stewardship of the Ashuelot River Corridor include the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and Health Officer. Contacting the Town Clerk or Selectmen's Secretary is often the most efficient way to reach other local officials due to annual changes in town office business hours, meeting times for local boards, and the names of local officials.

There are several organizations that maintain directories of local officials, including Southwest Region Planning Commission (357-0557), NH Department of Transportation (271-3734), and the NH Municipal Association (1-800-852-3358).

Gilsum	Town Office 357-0320
Hinsdale	Town Office 336-5710
Keene	City Hall 357-0133
Lempster	Town Office 863-3213
Marlow	Town Office 446-2245
Sullivan	Town Office 847-3316
Surry	Town Office 352-3075
Swanzey	Town Office 352-7411
Washington	Town Office 495-3661
Winchester	Town Office 239-4951

Ashuelot River Regional Organizations & Agencies

Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee

c/o Southwest Region Planning Commission 20 Central Sq., 2nd Floor, Keene, NH 03431 tele: 357-0557, FAX: 357-7440, e-Mail: jporter@swrpc.org Jeff Porter, Senior Planner

Established under NH RSA 483-B, the LAC is authorized to develop and promote the Ashuelot River Corridor Management Plan and afforded the opportunity to review and comment on applications for environmental permits within the Ashuelot River Corridor. Principle interests are public education for stewardship of River Corridor resources and assistance to local land use boards regarding the same. The LAC is made up of representatives from the ten Corridor towns.

Antioch New England Graduate School

Environmental Studies Department 40 Avon St., Keene, NH 03431 tele: 357-3122

Kay Delanoy, Practicum Coordinator

Antioch offers graduate programs in environmental studies and resource management. Antioch students have worked with government and private entities in a great variety of research, public education, and policy-making projects. Antioch faculty and interns are valuable resources for local conservation projects. (The Rachael Marshal Outdoor Learning Labs (director: Paul Bocko ext. 250, paul@anei.org) provide a learning atmosphere for students within the Ashuelot River Corridor)

Connecticut River Joint Commissions

P.O. Box 182 Charlestown, NH 03603 tele: 826-4880

Sharon Francis, Executive Director

The CRJC is established by the legislatures of NH and VT for the purpose of safeguarding the unique natural and cultural heritage of the Connecticut River Valley. The CRJC offers a grassroots support small grant program: the Connecticut River Partnership Program. Competitive Partnership grants fund local conservation and education activity in the Connecticut River watershed. The CRJC is active with the legislatures and environmental agencies of both states as well as at the federal level.

Connecticut River Watershed Council

15 Bank Row Greenfield, MA 01301 tele: 413-772-2020 email: crwc@crocker.com

Tom Miner & Whitty Sanford, Co-Executive Directors

Public education and interagency networking regarding stewardship and environmental policy.

Keene State College Science Division

229 Main St. Keene, NH 03431 tele: 352-1909

Dr. Gordon Leverse, Dean

The Science Division encourages internships and practical term-projects for undergraduate students. Students and faculty in the environmental studies and geography programs are especially interested in working with community-oriented conservation issues in the Ashuelot River watershed. Faculty conduct research in water quality and ecology of the Ashuelot River.

Harris Center for Conservation Education

King's Highway Hancock, NH 03449 tele: 525-4073 Meade Cadot, Director

The Harris Center conducts a public education program with activities both at the Harris Center and in area schools. The Harris Center is also active in land conservation in the Monadnock highlands. Harris Center staff are an excellent resource in these subject areas.

Monadnock Conservancy

P.O. Box 337 Keene, NH 03431 357-0600, e-Mail: staff@monadnockconservancy.org Diane Schott, President

The Conservancy's mission is to promote and facilitate land conservation for the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. The Monadnock Conservancy's range of interest includes Keene, Swanzey, Sullivan and Winchester in the Ashuelot Corridor. The Conservancy maintains a network of local members who represent the Conservancy to their respective towns, and viceversa.

NH Fish and Game Department, Region 4

Route 9 Keene, NH 03431 352-9669

The Region 4 office of the NH Fish and Game Department is staffed by an officer whose principal duties are public safety and law enforcement. The District office can provide contact with other Department personnel, e.g. fisheries and game biologists.

Southwest Region Planning Commission

20 Central Square, 2nd Floor Keene, NH 03431 357-0557

Provides local planning assistance; conducts regional planning activities; provides liaison between state and local interests; maintains and manages a repository of socio-economic, environmental, and geographic information; and participates in statewide policy and program activity in all matters regarding community planning. Serves 36 towns in Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties. Is one of nine NH regional planning agencies.

Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Council

77 Bank Street Lebanon, NH 03766 448-1680

Provides local planning assistance; conducts regional planning activities; provides liaison between state and local interests; maintains and manages a repository of socio-economic, environmental, and geographic information; and participates in statewide policy and program activity in all matters regarding community planning. Serves 26 towns in Sullivan and Grafton Counties. Is one of nine NH regional planning agencies.

US Army Corps of Engineers, Surry Mountain

Surry Mountain Flood Control Dam and Otter Brook Food Control Dam 352-4130

also: Technical Services

New England District

US Army Corps of Engineers

696 Virginia Road

Concord, MA 01742-2751

Operates Surry Mountain Dam for flood control and manages federal lands of Surry Mountain Flood Control Reservoir for public recreation and wildlife habitat.

US Fish and Wildlife Service, Conte Refuge

The Great Falls Discovery Center 38 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA 01376 413-863-0209

Implements research, habitat management, and public education regarding the purposes of the Silvio Conte Refuge for the Connecticut River Watershed. Refuge activity includes in-stream habitat protection for migratory fish in the Ashuelot River and tributaries.

County-Level Organizations & Agencies

Cheshire and Sullivan Counties Conservation District

Route 12, South, R1, Box 315 Walpole, NH 03608-9744 756-2988 USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Debby Hindman, District Manager

Cheshire County Cooperative Extension Service

800 Park Ave Keene, NH 03431 352-4550 Lauren Bressett, Administrator

Statewide Organizations

Appalachian Mountain Club

P.O. Box 298 Gorham, NH 03581 466-2727

Activities include public education and political activity regarding environmental policy, land conservation, and environmental education. Maintains Appalachain Trail and trail amenities.

NH Audubon Society

3 Silk Farm Road Concord, NH 03302-0516 224-9909

Activities include public education and political activity regarding environmental policy, land conservation, and environmental education. Organizes an annual migratory bird census in the Ashuelot River Watershed conducted by local volunteers.

NH Association of Conservation Commissions

54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 224-7867 Marjory Swope, Executive Director

Provides networking among NH Conservation Commissions through a quarterly newsletter and participates in legislative activity regarding environmental policy.

NH Farm Bureau

295 Sheep Davis Road Concord, NH 03301 224-1934 Donna Miller, Executive Director

NH Rivers Council

54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 228-6472 email: c_paulsen@nhrivers.org contact: Carl Paulsen

Public education and networking among grassroots organizations, state and federal agencies and legislators regarding river protection policy and programming; supports NH Rivers Management and Protection Program implementation.

NH Timberland Owners Association

54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 0331 224-9699

Landowner association participating in public education and political activities regarding land management, timber management and marketing, and public policy.

NH Youth Conservation Corps

P.O. Box 550 Charlestown, MA 543-9196

Organizes and manages student work teams for conservation activities.

NH Wildlife Federation

54 Portmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 224-5953

Sierra Club, NH Chapter

54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 226-9196

Society for the Protection of NH Forests

54 Portsmouth Street Concord, NH 03301 224-9945

Activities include public education and political activity regarding environmental policy; promotes land conservation and forest management; owns and manages conservation land.

Trout Unlimited

18 Low Street Concord, NH 03301-4902 226-3436

Activities include public education and political activity regarding stream protection. Also conducts stream habitat improvement and restoration projects and promotes stewardship.

State Government Agencies

NH Department of Environmental Services

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095 271-3503

NH Rivers Management and Protection Program

David Neils, Rivers Coordinator

Volunteer River Assessment Program

Beth Malcolm, Coordinator

NH Department of Development and Economic Resources

P.O. Box 1856 Concord, NH 03302 George Bald, Commissioner Bureau of Forests and Lands 271-2215 NH Natural Heritage Inventory 271-3623

NH Department of Transportation

Bureau of Environment

1 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 483 Concord, NH 03302-0483 271-3474 William Hauser, Administrator

NH Fish and Game Department

2 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03302 271-3421 Wayne Vetter, Executive Director Eric Aldrich, Public Affairs

NH Governor's Office of Cultural Affairs

20 Park Street Concord, NH 03301 271-2540 Van McLeod, Commissioner

NH Office of State Planning

2 1/2 Beacon Street Concord, NH 03301 271-2155 Jeffrey Taylor, Director

NH Division of Historic Resources

P.O. Box 2043 Concord, NH 03301 271-3483 Nancy Muller, Director

Federal Government Agencies

US Army Corps of Engineers, New England

Technical Services New England District US Army Corps of Engineers 696 Virginia Road Concord, MA 01742-2751

US Environmental Protection Agency

Team New Hampshire

John F. Kennedy Federal Building Boston, MA 02203-2211 617-918-1581; e-mail: deloi.carl@epamail.epa.gov

US Fish and Wildlife Service, New England

Regional Office 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035-9589 413-253-8200

email: fw5ea web@fws.gov

US Geologic Survey, New Hampshire

361 Commerce Way Pembroke, NH 226-7800 Brian Mrazik

Conducts research, maintains data and issues reports regarding geology and hydrology including stream flow data, ground water distribution, and water use.